

Message Text

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R 251815Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO USICA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6515
WHITE HOUSE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 08329

USICA USOECD USEEC

FOR: MCHALE, PGM/DP: P. SAPP, ECA: HUDSON EU: IOP
PASS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR FOR SAMUEL, EDES AND GREEN
AND SENATOR HUMPHREY'S OFFICE FOR TIM BARNICLE
SECSTATE FOR DAN GOOTT EUR
WHITE HOUSE FOR BERT CARP, BILL SPRING, ROBERT
GINSBURG
USMISSION OECD FOR ART HOFFMAN

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT: REPORT

1. OVER 120 SENIOR OFFICIALS, REPRESENTING BROAD RANGE
OF BRITISH POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH
INFLUENCE AND IMPLEMENT YOUTH EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND
PROGRAMS, TOOK PART IN POST'S MAY 19-20 CONFERENCE ON
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"PROSPECTS FOR FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE
1980S", CO-SPONSORED WITH BRITISH YOUTH COUNCIL (BYC) AND
HELD AT THE HOTEL INTERNATIONAL IN LONDON.

2. MAJOR PURPOSES OF CONFERENCE WERE TO IDENTIFY AND
BRING TOGETHER BRITISH LEADERS FROM A VARIETY OF FIELDS TO
SHARE EXPERIENCES WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS ON AN IMPORTANT

ISSUE OF MUTUAL CONCERN, AND TO SHOW UNDERLYING AMERICAN APPROACHES AND WAY US SYSTEM WORKS TO TACKLE SUCH PROBLEMS. WE SUCCEEDED ON BOTH COUNTS. POST AND BYC WITH DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND SCIENCE, MEDIA, LABOR, ACADEMIC AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES, DEVELOPED SELECTIVE LIST AIMED AT ATTRACTING 65 PARTICIPANTS. RESPONSE GREATLY EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS. OUT OF 170 INVITED, 130 ACCEPTED; WE HAD A WAITING LIST OF 12 BECAUSE SEVERAL OF THOSE WHO ORIGINALLY TURNED DOWN INVITATIONS CALLED LATER TO ACCEPT.

3. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ATTENDING INCLUDED TWO CABINET MINISTERS (FOR EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION/SCIENCE); FIVE ASSISTANT SECRETARIES FROM DEPARTMENTS OF EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION/SCIENCE; POLITICAL ADVISORS TO THE PRIME MINISTER, CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER AND CABINET MINISTERS FOR EMPLOYMENT, PRICES/CONSUMER PROTECTION AND EDUCATION/SCIENCE; FOREIGN MINISTRY OBSERVERS; SIX MPS, INCLUDING LABOR AND CONSERVATIVE FRONT-BENCH SPOKESMEN FOR EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY; AND THE DIRECTOR AND TOP SEVEN OFFICIALS OF MANPOWER SERVICES COMMISSION (MSC), THE GOVERNMENT AGENCY MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH MAKING AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES DESIGNED TO ALLEVIATE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT. POLITICAL PARTY DELEGATES INCLUDED POLICY AND ISSUES OFFICERS FROM LABOR, CONSERVATIVE AND LIBERAL PARTIES AND THEIR YOUTH UNCLASSIFIED

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WINGS. LABOR, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC CORRESPONDENTS FROM TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT, BBC, ECONOMIST, GUARDIAN, NEW SOCIETY AND DAILY MIRROR PARTICIPATED IN CONFERENCE, WHILE CORRESPONDENTS FROM SIX OTHER NEWSPAPERS COVERED THE SESSIONS. OTHER PARTICIPANTS REPRESENTED MAJOR TRADE UNIONS (INCLUDING HEADS OF NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS, NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS AND POLICY OFFICERS FROM TRADES UNION CONGRESS AND GENERAL AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS UNION); CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRY AND FIVE MAJOR MANUFACTURERS (INCLUDING IMPERIAL CHEMICALS AND BRITISH STEEL), TWENTY-NINE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS (INCLUDING THE DIRECTORS OF 17 OF THESE); LOCAL LEADERS FROM GREATER LONDON COUNCIL AND TEN OTHER ENGLISH, SCOTTISH AND WELSH MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATIONS; NATIONALLY-KNOWN LABOR ECONOMISTS FROM OXFORD, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND FIVE OTHER UNIVERSITIES; AND TWO OF UK'S MOST PROMINENT BLACK PERSONALITIES, LOUIS CHASE (DIRECTOR, PROJECT FULLEMPLOY) AND TREVOR PHILLIPS (PRESIDENT-ELECT, NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS). POST POUCHING ATTENDANCE LIST TO ALL ADDRESSEES. EIGHT EUROPEAN OBSERVERS INCLUDED

TECHNICAL COUNSELOR TO FRENCH PRIME MINISTER BARRE;
HEAD OF EEC EMPLOYMENT DIRECTORATE; A NATIONAL

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SECRETARY OF CISL, ONE OF ITALY'S THREE MAJOR TRADE
UNIONS; EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF SWEDISH GOVERNMENT
COMMISSION ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT; AND HEAD OF LABOR
MARKET SECTION, WEST GERMAN SENATOR FOR LABOR AND SOCIAL
AFFAIRS.

4. WE ATTRIBUTE SIZE AND QUALITY OF BRITISH AND
EUROPEAN AUDIENCE TO IMPORTANCE OF TOPIC AND DRAWING
POWER OF EXTREMELY QUALIFIED, HIGH-LEVEL AMERICAN AND
BRITISH SPEAKERS. UK SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EMPLOYMENT
ALBERT BOOTH OPENED CONFERENCE MAY 19 AND HOSTED
RECEPTION FOR PARTICIPANTS FOLLOWING KEYNOTE SPEECHES BY
ELI GINZBERG (CHAIRMAN OF US NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
MANPOWER POLICY) AND JOHN HUGHES (VICE-PRINCIPAL OF
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OXFORD'S LABOR-ORIENTED RUSKIN COLLEGE AND DIRECTOR OF TRADE UNION RESEARCH UNIT). JOHN GRANT (UNDER-SECRETARY OF UK DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT) JOINED US PARTICIPANTS TIM BARNICLE (SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT TO SEN. MURIEL HUMPHREY AND A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO FORMULATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF "HUMPHREY-HAWKINS" BILL) AND ROBERT GINSBURG (ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF WHITE HOUSE DOMESTIC POLICY STAFF) IN SATURDAY MORNING DISCUSSION OF GOVERNMENT APPROACHES TO EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS. THE TWO OFFICIALS MOST DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE WITH YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS IN THEIR COUNTRIES -- ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR ERNEST GREEN AND GEOFFREY HOLLAND, DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT MSC AND ARCHITECT OF UK'S \$600 MILLION, 5-YEAR PLAN TO PROVIDE TRAINING AND JOBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE -- FOLLOWED WITH TALKS ON EDUCATION AND MANPOWER TRAINING PROGRAMS IN US AND UK. CONFERENCE CONCLUDED SATURDAY AFTERNOON WITH WIDE-RANGING PANEL DISCUSSION (WHICH LASTED 30 MINUTES BEYOND CLOSING TIME) FEATURING GREEN, ELI GINSBERG, VICTOR PAIGE (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL FREIGHT CORPORATION, AND CBI REPRESENTATIVE TO MSC), SUE SLIPMAN (CURRENT PRESIDENT, NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS) AND LARRY WHITTY (GENERAL AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS UNION).

5. BRITISH AND AMERICAN REACTION EXTREMELY FAVORABLE. SAMPLE OF UNSOLICITED COMMENTS: "MOST IMPORTANT AND USEFUL CONFERENCE I'VE EVER ATTENDED"; (DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF MANPOWER STUDIES) "SUPERBLY ORGANIZED"; "HOW DID YOU GET SUCH TOP-QUALITY AMERICAN SPEAKERS?"; "FIRST OPPORTUNITY I'VE HAD TO HEAR ABOUT US POLICY AND HOW IT'S MADE FROM THOSE WHO MAKE IT"; "MOST COMPREHENSIVE AND IMPORTANT MEETING SINCE DECEMBER OECD SESSION"(FROM A UK DELEGATE TO OECD YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

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CONFERENCE); "EVERYONE IN BRITAIN WHO HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOUTH EMPLOYMENT POLICY CAME OR WAS REPRESENTED HERE -- AND IF THEY WEREN'T HERE, THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN."

6. POSITIVE REACTION DUE IN LARGE PART TO QUALITY OF PRESENTATIONS BY US DELEGATION. ELI GINZBERG HAD AUDIENCE IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND WITH WIDE-RANGING, HARD-HITTING ATTACK ON SUCH YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OBSTACLES AS SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL IMMOBILITY, ELITISM, INADEQUATE EFFORTS TO TARGET EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS ON

MINORITY GROUPS WHICH SUFFER THE MOST, IMPRACTICAL
EFFORTS TO REVIVE INEFFICIENT INDUSTRIES; ONE LEFT-WING,
NORMALLY ANTI-AMERICAN DELEGATE CALLED GINZBERG "THE
WISE MAN OF THE CONFERENCE." ERNEST GREEN GREATLY
IMPRESSED PARTICIPANTS WITH THOROUGHLY INFORMATIVE
ARTICULATE DISCUSSION OF LARGE NUMBER OF US PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE JOBS FOR YOUNG

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PEOPLE. ROBERT GINSBURG, A LAST-MINUTE REPLACEMENT FOR
ORIGINALLY-SCHEDULED WHITE HOUSE SPEAKER BERT CARP,
PRAISED BY AMERICAN AND BRITISH PARTICIPANTS ALIKE FOR
SOLID, WELL-REASONED PRESENTATION ON CARTER ADMINISTRA-
TION APPROACHES TO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT. TIM BARNICLE WAS
A COMMITTED AND EFFECTIVE SPOKESMAN ON FULL EMPLOYMENT
LEGISLATION, PUTTING DISCUSSION OF HUMPHREY-HAWKINS
BILL IN CONTEXT OF HUMAN CONCERN WHICH EPITOMIZED
HUBERT HUMPHREY'S PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER AND INCLUDING
EXTREMELY USEFUL ILLUSTRATIONS OF EFFECTIVE BEHIND-THE-

SCENES COOPERATION BETWEEN EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE
BRANCHES AND RELEVANT INTEREST GROUPS. AMERICAN
PARTICIPANTS FRANCIS CARROLL (PRESIDENT OF SMALL BUSINESS
SERVICES BUREAU) AND GARY SORENSON (DIRECTOR, MANPOWER
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SERVICE COMMISSION, OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY) ADDED MUCH-
NEEDED REGIONAL AND LOCAL DIMENSIONS.

7. AMONG IMMEDIATE RESULTS: BBC RADIO INTERVIEWS WITH
ELI GINZBERG AND TIM BARNICLE; "BLACK LONDON" RADIO
(MANAGED BY AND AIMED AT BRITISH MINORITY GROUPS) INTER-
VIEW WITH ERNEST GREEN; ARTICLES TO APPEAR IN THIS
FRIDAY'S ECONOMIST AND TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT;
A NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR TRANSCRIPT OF ELI GINZBERG TALK
(INCLUDING URGENT REQUEST FROM HEAD OF NATIONAL UNION OF
TEACHERS WHO PLANS TO DISTRIBUTE TEXT TO PARTICIPANTS IN
JUNE CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT FOR UNION MEMBERS) AND FOR
ERNEST GREEN SPEECH TEXT; FUTURE SPEAKING INVITATIONS
FOR ALL FOUR AMERICAN SPEAKERS. LONG-TERM POTENTIAL OF
EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ARE
IDEAL IV CANDIDATES. MANY COME FROM INSTITUTIONS WITH
WHICH POST HAD LITTLE OR NO PREVIOUS CONTACT BUT WOULD
NOW WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO COOPERATE WITH US ON PROGRAMS.

8. POST GREATLY APPRECIATES EFFORTS OF ALL IN WASHING-
TON AND AT ICA POSTS IN WEST GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY
AND SWEDEN FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN SECURING PARTICIPATION
OF AMERICAN SPEAKERS AND EUROPEAN OBSERVERS. WE ARE
PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF ED
MCHALE (USICA/PGM/DP), PEGGY SAPP (USICA/ECA), ART
HOFFMAN (ICA-OECD), AND JOHN HUDSON (USICA/EU).
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2574665
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONFERENCE ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT: REPORT
TAGS: ELAB, SOCI, UK, US
To: ICA STATE
Type: TE
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